Fertilisers Consumption

1234. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the stock of fertilisers is mounting;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to step up its consumption;

(c) whether it is likely to have any impact on future production; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to consider any change in pricing policy of fertilisers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILISERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) No sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) No sir.

(d) There is no proposal under consideration at present regarding change in the existing pricing policy of Fertilisers.

Survey for Gold in Kerala

1235. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the G.S.I. have conducted field season survey in Manjeri area of Malappuram district of Kerala gold deposits; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Detailed examination of Sulphide bearing Quartz Veins near Manjeri in Malappuram district, Kerala was carried out during the Field Seasons 1982-83, 1983-84, and 1984—85. The work was also carried out in Monjeri—Wandur area during Field Season 1986-87 and 1987-88. An area of 510 sq. km. was mapped on 1:25,000 scale and 215 samples were collected for gold determinations. The work revealed presence of a few old workings and some samples from these areas have indicated minor presence of gold. Further study is in progress.

Survey for Gold in West Bengal

1236. DR. R. K. PODDAR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Geological Survey of India have conducted any survey for gold in Rajagram—Duarsini area of Purulia district of West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any likelyhood to conduct any survey in other area of West Bengal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Geochemical and geophysical surveys and test drilling over a few airborne EM anomalies around Rajagram and Duarsini during 1985-86 field season have indicated sulphide mineralisation with associated specks of gold. Reconnoitory traverses in the area have also brought to light a number of quartz veins with visible specks of gold. Investigation is being continued during the present 1987-88 field season (Ist Oct. 1987 to 30th Sept., 1988).

(c) and (d) There is no other programme for survey for gold in other areas of West Bengal by the Geological Survey of India during 1987-88 Field Season. However, the GSI is engaged in carrying out other mineral investigations in West Bengal such as investigations for tin-tungsten and apatite in Purulia district and base-metals in Purulia, Bankura and Medinipur districts.